

# EOD blows up rocket motor

377th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Branch, part of Civil Engineer Division, disposes of a BE-3 rocket motor, used to decelerate early ranger probes for landing on the moon. The motor also is used by Sandia National Laboratories for various test projects.

EOD's mission is identifying, rendering safe and disposing of U.S. and foreign conventional chemical, biological, nuclear and improvised explosive devices.

Here, they support numerous federal and state agencies including Sandia, Air Force Research Laboratory and Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, along with local police departments and Secret Service. They respond to situations like terrorist bombs, aircraft with problems, weapons of mass destruction and military ordnance found on and off base.

EOD also assists research laboratories in exploding foreign ordnance.



**FAR RIGHT--**Explosive Ordnance Disposal personnel place explosives on a BE-3 rocket motor to dispose of it. Air Force personnel include Airman 1st Class Jacob Hamilton, Staff Sgt. Ken Sander, Staff Sgt. Matthew Basanta and Senior Airman Jonathan Broussard, 377th Explosive Ordnance Disposal.

**RIGHT--** EOD personnel lift the rocket motor from the back of a truck to place explosives on it. Rocket motor weighs 613 pounds.

**BELOW--** Stages of explosion for the lunar lander.

